



North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors

December 1, 2020

- To the North Carolina Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee
- To the North Carolina Joint Legislative Commission on Government Operations
- To the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management

RE: Final report on specific efforts to exercise regulatory flexibility pursuant to Section 3.20.(c) of S.L. 2020-97

1. The North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors (NCLBGC)
5400 Creedmoor Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27612

Members of the Board 2020

Lee Thomason – Chairman	Lyle Gardner
Lisa Piercy – Vice Chair	Robyn Hicks-Guinn
J. David Stike – Past Chairman (expired 9/26/20)	Henry Lanier
Benton Albritton	Bobby Lassiter
John Cooper	George Ratchford (eff. 9/26/20)

2. Effective May 14, 2020, exercising the authority granted by SB704, the NCLBGC authorized Board-approved providers of continuing education for general contractors to deliver continuing education courses pursuant to §87-10.2, by live instruction, as state and local government COVID-19 restrictions allow pursuant to §87-10.2(d), or, by synchronous distance-learning instruction (SDL) using virtual meeting where the instructor and students are separated only by distance and not time, allowing for real-time monitoring of student attendance and participation. The inclusion of SDL was primarily responsible for 25,394 out of 29,252 or 86% of qualifiers for general contractors licenses required to complete 8 hours of CE to complete the CE requirement.
3. Effective June 1, 2020 the NCLBGC authorized PSI Services, Inc. the provider of examination services for general contractor licensure to engage eight (8) additional third party owned examination centers to provide additional examination stations to compensate for the loss of seats to social distancing requirements. located in Charlotte (2), Greensboro (2), New Bern, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem in addition to the seven (7) existing examination centers wholly owned by PSI Services, Inc. The additional testing sites enabled an additional 250-300 applicants to sit for the required examination to be eligible for licensure.

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4. Effective July 21, 2020, the NCLBGC authorized exemptions to the continuing education requirement pursuant to §87-10.2, for licensees with documented existing medical conditions that results in being higher risk to COVID-19 exposure. The continuing education exemption was for the 2021 license renewal only. Six licensees applied for and received COVID-19 related exemptions to the CE requirement for the 2021 license renewal. An additional 96 license holders requested and were granted 6-month extensions to complete the CE requirement for 2021.
5. Effective August 1, 2020 the NCLBGC implemented online general contractor license applications to provide greater efficiency for those wishing to enter the business of general contracting in North Carolina. Between August 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020 there were 844 online applications received by applicants seeking a license for the first time. This represents a 12% increase in the average number of applications received on a monthly basis prior to the online application being available.

The actions outlined have been taken by the Board during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to exercise regulatory flexibility and provide effective and highly efficient service to applicants, licensees, and the citizens of North Carolina.

On behalf of the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors we respectfully submit this report.

Sincerely,



Lee Thomason
Chairman



C. Frank Wiesner
Executive Director